

Minute Book 1: [http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-1/\[p.#+4\]](http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-1/[p.#+4])

Minute Book 2: [http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-2/\[p.#+2\]](http://www.josephsmithpapers.org/paper-summary/minute-book-2/[p.#+2])

1831

1831-07: "Names of the Colesville Church or the first church that came to the land of Zion" (Willes Papers, MS 2014 f001/p.11)

1832

1832 W.W. Phelps later claimed he was not only the printer, but was ordained as "leader of the spiritual affairs of the Kingdom in Zion, with Oliver Cowdery and John Whitmer as my assistants. Edward Partridge as bishop and Isaac Morley and John Corril as his assistants were over the temporal affairs." (Reminiscence, 1864. CHL MS 6019 folder 7 p.1-2) *This may refer to the March 26 1833 decision.*

1832-07-13: dividing "Church in the Land of Zion" into branches, which will meet separately (MB2 29)

Kaw Twp sec 25,26,27,28,33,34,35,36 => "Branch No. 1"

Kaw Twp sec 29,30,31,32 => Second

First no. sections in Twp => "Branch No. 3"

Blue Township => "a branch" (#4?)

1832-07-17: Colesville Church reorganized as Branch #1 (Willes Papers, MS 2014 f001/p.14)

1832-12-03: John Correll & Isaac Morley sent to set in order the branches in Zion (MB2 36)

1833

1833-03-26: High priests council accepted a plan drafted at a meeting a month earlier, appointing seven high priests to be the "head of affairs relating to the church in that section of the Lord's vineyard," most of whom had been called by revelation (D&C 57) to settle here and build up Zion: Oliver Cowdery, W.W. Phelps, John Whitmer, A. Sidney Gilbert, Bishop Edward Partridge and his two counselors John Corril and Isaac Morley." (MB2 34 mentions the meeting, HC 1:335-336 gives more details)

1833-09-11: Edward Partridge sustained as "head of Church in Zion at present" (MB2 36)

1833-09-11: 10 branches with high priests to preside; no hint of location (MB2 36) *Matching with the branch memberships listed in the 1864 Jackson County List (MS 6019), we can surmise that these were located as follows:*

1 Newel Knight (Colesville Branch)

2 Daniel Stanton (Prairie Branch)

3 David Whitmer (Whitmer Branch)

4 John Corril (Independence Branch)

5 Thomas B. Marsh (Blue River Branch)

6 Peter Dustin (Blue River Branch)

7 Lyman Wight (Prairie Branch)

8 Parley P. Pratt (Colesville Branch)
9 Simeon Carter (Blue River Branch)
10 Calvin Beebe (Independence Branch)
1833-12-01: Colesville Saints leave Jackson County (Willes Papers, MS 2014 p.15)

1834

1834-07-03: David Whitmer sustained as "President of the Church in Zion," with two vice presidents and a high council (MB2 43-45)
1834-07-30: [Colesville Branch](#), [Hulet Branch](#) (MB2 50)
1834-07-30: Simeon Carter, John Corrill, PP Pratt, Orson Pratt called to visit the branches
1834-08-06: [Hulet Branch](#) (MB2 58)

1835

During much of 1835, most of the Missouri leaders are in Kirtland helping to finish the temple. Minute Book 2 has no record of meetings in Missouri from December 1834 through July 1836
1835-01-23: [Colesville Branch](#) still meeting as a unit (Willes Papers f001/p.16)

1836

1836-05: Edward Partridge and other leaders explore new settlement sites, find a good site on Shoal Creek and start entering claims (Edward Partridge Journal, p.46)
1836-07-25: high council meeting, still in Clay County. Not all leaders have returned from Kirtland yet. (MB2 69)
1836-11-15: "City of Shoal Creek" (later Far West) (MB2 68)

1837

1837-04-07: conference at Far West (first appearance of that name in MB2) (MB2 68)
1837-11-07: David Whitmer sustained as president of "this Branch of the Church", Isaac Morley as patriarch (MB2 83) *Joseph Smith and Sidney Rigdon have arrived from Kirtland to look for additional stakes/gathering places.*

1838

1838-02-05: David Whitmer and his counselors removed from office, high council votes that Thomas B. Marsh and David W. Patten be "Presidents pro tempore of the Church of Latter Day Saints in Missouri" until the First Presidency arrives (MB2 96; Minutes of the Proceedings of the Committee of the Whole Church in Zion, *Elders Journal*, July 1838, p.44-45,
https://archive.org/stream/EldersJournal18371838/Elders_Journal_1837-1838#page/n43/mode/2up)

1838-02-24: HC resolves that no Melchizedek Priesthood holder (other than the presidency, high council, and bishopric) can “preside over or take charge of any Branch, Society, or neighborhood within the bounds of this stake: but that the teachers, assisted by the deacons, be considered the standing ministry” (MB2 101); further resolutions clearly make teachers the presiding authorities in the branches “within the bounds of the stake.” Elias Higbee, G.M. Hinkle, Goerge Morey to notify the branches. *This is the first evidence I have seen of a stake having a clear regional jurisdiction; but were the bounds ever defined?*

1838-04-06: conference in Far West presided by Joseph Smith, organization of “this Church of Zion”/“this Stake of Zion”/“the Church in Zion.” apostle Thomas B. Marsh as “President pro tempore of the Church in Zion” with Brigham Young and David W. Patten as “assistant presidents” (MB2 114; Conference Minutes, *Elders Journal*, July 1838, p.46-47, https://archive.org/stream/EldersJournal18371838/Elders_Journal_1837-1838#page/n45/mode/2up)

1838-06-28: “Stake of Adam-ondi-Ahman” organized, with John Smith as president with counselors and a high council, and Vinson Knight as “acting bishop pro tempore” (*Elders Journal*, Aug 1838, pp.60-61, https://archive.org/stream/EldersJournal18371838/Elders_Journal_1837-1838#page/n59/mode/2up)

1838-08: policy statement says, “...each branch of the church, not yet organized into a stake...” then a couple sentences later, “...to the Clerk of the nearest stake, or to such as they [branches] may be attached.” (*Elders Journal*, Aug 1838, p.62) *a stake is a subtype of branch*